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3 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Scheduling of CIA Subcommittee Briefing for  
6 January 1969

1. In response to his telephone request, I met with Mr. J. R. Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, who advised that a CIA Subcommittee meeting was being scheduled for 10:15 a.m., Monday, 6 January in Room 2212, Rayburn House Office Building. Mr. Blandford advised that the purpose of the meeting was to take testimony concerning the Pueblo but that the Subcommittee members themselves would not even be advised of this until meeting time to avoid the possibility of news leaks. Mr. Blandford advised that there would be no need for the Director to appear but that someone should be available from the Agency to advise the Committee concerning any compromise of Agency interests. Mr. Blandford asked that if I would be so kind, on my return to the Agency, to call General Marshall Carter, on his behalf, on a secure telephone and ask that he be present with whoever of his people he might care to bring with him, at 10:15 Monday morning to testify on compromise of equipment and other NSA matters affected in the loss of the Pueblo. Mr. Blandford noted for General Carter's information and the Agency's that neither would be present in the Committee room during the appearance of the other. At this point, Mr. Blandford also suggested that it would be well if someone, such as [ ] could be available in case time allowed to provide a world-situation roundup. On my return to the Agency, I advised [ ] of the foregoing and called General Carter on the grey telephone.

2. General Carter thanked me for the call and asked that I pass back to Mr. Blandford, on his behalf, response that he would be present on Monday morning. General Carter will be limited in the detail that he can provide since his experts on the subject are all in San Diego working on the debriefings. The possible maximum

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assessment of damage is available and has been prepared for some time. Refinement of the possible maximum assessment is some weeks away since interrogation so far covers a magnitude in excess of 600 rolls of several hours each and less than 300 have been transcribed so far.

3. On my return to the Hill, I advised Mr. Blandford that the information provided by him had been relayed to the Agency and that I had talked to General Carter. In response to the information I relayed on General Carter's behalf, Mr. Blandford indicated that he assumed that the General would not be able to give a final analysis at this time but that there is need for the Committee to develop such information as is presently available.

4. Later in the afternoon, I again talked to Mr. Blandford who asked how I had confused his advice that the Director would not be needed on Monday. He advised that he had talked to Admiral Taylor and had advised the Admiral that he too would not be needed. I advised Mr. Blandford that his instructions had been relayed but that in matters where testimony is to be provided on Agency operations or determinations, the Director has a strong preference to make such appearances himself and an equally strong desire to insure that the desires and needs of the Chairman are fully met. The conversation was interrupted at this point and since the remainder of our business had been concluded, it terminated on this note.

5. The following Committee members are being notified of the meeting: Representatives Philbin (D., Mass.), Hebert (D., La.), Price (D., Ill.), Fisher (D., Tex.), Bennett (D., Fla.), Bates (R., Mass.), Arends (R., Ill.), O'Konski (R., Wis.) and Bray (R., Ind.).

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